S/N Unknown PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

AOYAGI, et al.

Examiner:

Unknown

Serial No.:

Unknown

Group Art Unit:

Unknown

Filed:

March 28, 2000

Docket No.:

594.352USWO

Title:

METHOD FOR MEASUREMENT OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

'Express Mail' mailing label number: EL 415888455US

Date of Deposit: March 28, 2000

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service 'Express Mail Post Office To Addressee' service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Name: Linda McCormick

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b))

BOX PCT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above—identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

A copy of the International Search Report is enclosed. Since the International Search Report is in English, no English translation of the listed foreign references are required, pursuant to MPEP §609(A)3.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13–2725.

Respectfully submitted, AOYAGI, et al. By their Attorneys,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C. P.O. Box 2903 Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903 (612) 332-5300

Dated: <u>March 28, 2000</u>

Curtis

Curtis B. Hamre Reg No. 29,165

CBH:jjw